

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
EASTERN DIVISION

In re:)
) Case No. 19bk21647
IMRAN A ZIA,)
) Chapter 7
Debtor.)
_____) Honorable Timothy A. Barnes

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW IN SUPPORT OF ORDER
AWARDING TO SUGAR FELSENTAL GRAIS & HELSINGER LLP, ATTORNEYS FOR
TRUSTEE, FOR ALLOWANCE AND PAYMENT OF FINAL COMPENSATION AND
REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES

TOTAL FEES REQUESTED:	\$ 9,055.00	TOTAL COSTS REQUESTED:	\$ 40.80
TOTAL FEES REDUCED:	\$ 293.50	TOTAL COSTS REDUCED:	\$ 0.00
TOTAL FEES ALLOWED:	\$ 8,761.50	TOTAL COSTS ALLOWED:	\$ 40.80

TOTAL FEES AND COSTS ALLOWED: \$ 8,802.30

The attached time and expense entries have been underlined to reflect disallowance in whole or in part. The basis for each disallowance is reflected by numerical notations that appear on the left of each underlined entry. The numerical notations correspond to the enumerated paragraphs below.

- (1) Trustee Work Can Not Be Compensated As Professional Services – TOTAL of disallowed amounts: \$ 274.00


“The Trustee cannot effectively expand the maximum limits of Section 326(a) by hiring other people to perform his duties for him, whether they are paralegals, attorneys, accountants or other professional persons, and utilize the potentially unlimited scope of Section 330 as a basis for award of reasonable compensation.” *Boldt v. United States Trustee (In re Jenkins)*, 130 F.3d 1335, 1341 (9th Cir. 1997) (*quoting In re Prairie Cent. Ry. Co.*, 87 B.R. 952, 959 (Bankr. N.D. Ill. 1988) (Squires, J.)).

In this case, whenever the trustee meets with counsel, the Trustee is deemed to be acting in his capacity as trustee and seeking the advice of counsel.

- (2) Computational or Typographical Error – TOTAL of disallowed amounts: \$ 19.50

The court denies the allowance of compensation for the following tasks because the amount of fees appears to be a computational or typographical error. Also, where there are two identical entries for the same meeting, but one counsel charges a larger time entry for the same meeting, the court will consider the larger entry to be a typographical error and reduce it to the smaller amount.

Dated: 11.10.2020



Timothy A. Barnes
United States Bankruptcy Judge

EXHIBIT A-1

Zia, Imran
c/o Norman B. Newman
30 N LaSalle St, Ste 3000
Chicago IL 60602

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09/15/2020
Account No: 10708-000
Statement No: 264018

General Administrative

Fees

			Rate	Hours	
10/28/2019	HB	Review and compile auditor's report of material misstatement.	320.00	0.10	32.00
11/04/2019	NBN	Review Audit Report regarding income information (.20); telephone call with Debtor's attorney regarding explanation and regarding possible offer for interest in real estate (.30).	685.00	0.50	342.50
11/05/2019	NBN	Telephone call with D. DeLaurent regarding Audit Report and affidavits submitted by Debtor's attorney regarding expenses.	685.00	0.20	137.00
11/19/2019	HB	Review and compile discharge order.	320.00	0.10	32.00
12/02/2019	NBN	Telephone call with attorney for LOMTO FCU regarding pending litigation vs. Blue Ribbon Tax (.30); review documents regarding pending litigation (.40).	685.00	0.70	479.50
12/09/2019	HB	Review and compile amended schedules I,J,with declaration.	320.00	0.10	32.00
		For Current Services Rendered		1.70	1,055.00

Recapitulation

Timekeeper	Hours	Rate	Total
Holly Bonamer	0.30	\$320.00	\$96.00
Norman B. Newman	1.40	685.00	959.00

Expenses

02/29/2020	Photocopy Charges	40.80
	Total Expenses	40.80
	Total Current Work	1,095.80
	Balance Due	<u>\$1,095.80</u>

Billing History

Fees	Expenses	Finance Charge	Payments
1,055.00	40.80	0.00	0.00

EXHIBIT
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Zia, Imran
 c/o Norman B. Newman
 30 N LaSalle St, Ste 3000
 Chicago IL 60602

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 09/15/2020
 Account No: 10708-001
 Statement No: 264019

Retention of Professionals

Fees

			Rate	Hours	
10/14/2019	NBN	Prepare motion, notice and order to employ attorneys.	685.00	0.40	274.00
10/17/2019	NBN	Prepare motion to employ counsel.	685.00	0.40	274.00
10/30/2019	MAB	Imran A. Zia: Prepare for and participate in hearing to retain counsel (0.8).		0.80	N/C
10/31/2019	HB	Review and compile order granting application to employ Michael A Brandess for Norman B Newman.	320.00	0.10	32.00
11/01/2019	MAB	Telephone conference with Denise DeLaurent regarding auditor report (0.3); e-mail correspondence with Norman Newman regarding same (0.2).	575.00	0.50	287.50
		For Current Services Rendered		1.40	867.50
		Total Non-billable Hours		0.80	

Recapitulation

Timekeeper	Hours	Rate	Total
Michael A. Brandess	0.50	\$575.00	\$287.50
Holly Bonamer	0.10	320.00	32.00
Norman B. Newman	0.80	685.00	548.00

Total Current Work 867.50

Balance Due \$867.50

Billing History

Fees	Expenses	Finance Charge	Payments
867.50	0.00	0.00	0.00

NBN

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EXHIBIT
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 Chicago IL 60602

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 09/15/2020
 Account No: 10708-002
 Statement No: 264020

Disposition of Assets

Fees

			Rate	Hours	
10/03/2019	NBN	Telephone call with J. Sherpan regarding Zia real estate title and review Zia title search (.40).	685.00	0.40	274.00
(1) Trustee Work					
	JLS	Imran Zia: e-mail correspondence from Norm Newman requesting info on title vesting for 2115 Busse Hwy, Des Plaines, IL both current and at time of purchase, search Cook County Property Portal, Assessor, and Recorder sites for info and documents, review and discuss same with Norm Newman	265.00	0.50	132.50
10/14/2019	NBN	Review real estate title search and conveyance documents regarding possible fraudulent conveyance action (.40); telephone call with Debtor's attorney regarding same (.20).	685.00	0.60	411.00
11/27/2019	MAB	Multiple telephone conferences and e-mail correspondence with Gus Sparagis regarding potential claims (0.4); telephone conference and e-mail correspondence with Norman Newman regarding same (0.3).	575.00	0.70	402.50
12/09/2019	NBN	Review real estate market analysis and correspondence with Debtor's attorney regarding possible offer on avoidance claim.	685.00	0.40	274.00
01/14/2020	NBN	Telephone call with C. Majerski regarding \$15,000 offer for interest in real estate.	685.00	0.20	137.00
01/21/2020	JRO	Strategy conference with Norm Newman regarding 9019 motion (0.1).	535.00	0.10	53.50
01/22/2020	KHF	Strategic meeting with Jack O'Connor on drafting a 9019 motion	195.00	0.20	39.00
(2) Typo					
	JRO	Strategy conference with Kyle Fleck regarding 9019 motion drafting (0.1).	535.00	0.10	53.50
01/29/2020	KHF	Draft Motion to Approve Settlement under Fed. R. Bankr. P. 9019	195.00	2.50	487.50
	JRO	Email correspondence with Norm Newman regarding status of motion to approve settlement agreement (0.1); email correspondence with Kyle Fleck regarding same (0.2).	535.00	0.30	160.50
01/30/2020	JRO	Strategy conferences with Kyle Fleck regarding 9019 motion and			

Account No:
Statement No:

Disposition of Assets

			Rate	Hours	
		outstanding issues for drafting (0.4); email correspondence from Kyle Fleck regarding same (0.1).	535.00	0.50	267.50
	KHF	Draft motion to approve settlement under Bankruptcy Rule 9019; including conference with Jack O'Connor on the motion	195.00	3.00	585.00
02/07/2020	JRO	Continue revising 9019 motion to approve settlement with debtor (1.3); email correspondence with Norm Newman regarding same (0.3).	535.00	1.80	963.00
02/11/2020	JRO	Strategy conference with Kyle Fleck regarding comments to 9019 motion (0.2).	535.00	0.20	107.00
02/13/2020	NBN	Review latest draft of motion to settle claim to real estate.	700.00	0.30	210.00
02/14/2020	JRO	Revise motion to approve settlement per Norm Newman comments (0.3); draft proposed order for same (0.2); email correspondence to Norm Newman regarding same for final review (0.1).	535.00	0.60	321.00
	JRO	Email correspondence from Norm regarding 9019 motion (0.1).	535.00	0.10	53.50
02/17/2020	NBN	Finalize motion to settle claim vs. real estate (0.4).	700.00	0.40	280.00
	JRO	Strategy conference with Norm Newman regarding comments to 9019 motion (0.1); conferences with internal working group regarding finalizing and filing same (0.2).	535.00	0.30	160.50
	JRO	Email correspondence with Nancy Sulak regarding service of 9019 motion (0.1).	535.00	0.10	53.50
02/18/2020	HB	Review and compile trustee's motion to approve settlement under Bankruptcy Rule 9019 with exhibit and proposed order.	320.00	0.20	64.00
03/11/2020	JRO	Prepare for (0.4) and attend (0.7) hearing on motion to approve settlement with debtor and spouse; email correspondence to Norm Newman regarding outcome of same (0.1).	535.00	1.20	642.00
03/12/2020	JRO	Review order approving settlement (0.1); email correspondence with Norm Newman regarding same (0.2).	535.00	0.30	160.50
		For Current Services Rendered		15.00	6,292.50

Recapitulation

Timekeeper	Hours	Rate	Total
Michael A. Brandess	0.70	\$575.00	\$402.50
Jennifer L. Sherpan	0.50	265.00	132.50
Holly Bonamer	0.20	320.00	64.00
John R. O'Connor	5.60	535.00	2,996.00
Kyle H Fleck	5.70	195.00	1,111.50
Norman B. Newman	1.60	685.00	1,096.00
Norman B. Newman	0.70	700.00	490.00

Total Current Work

6,292.50

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EXHIBIT
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09/15/2020
Account No: 10708-003
Statement No: 264021

Claims

Fees

			Rate	Hours	
03/27/2020	NBN	Review secured claim filed by Pen Fed (.2).	700.00	0.20	140.00
08/20/2020	NBN	Review Pentagon Federal Credit Union secured claim and correspondence with attorney regarding allowance as unsecured for distribution purposes.	700.00	0.30	210.00
08/24/2020	NBN	Correspondence with attorney for Pentagon Federal Credit Union re: claim allowed as unsecured for distribution (.3).	700.00	0.30	210.00
		For Current Services Rendered		0.80	560.00

Recapitulation

Timekeeper	Hours	Rate	Total
Norman B. Newman	0.80	\$700.00	\$560.00

Total Current Work 560.00

Balance Due \$560.00

Billing History

Fees	Expenses	Finance Charge	Payments
560.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

NBN

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EXHIBIT
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Zia, Imran
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09/15/2020
Account No: 10708-006
Statement No: 264023

Fees

Fees

			Rate	Hours	
09/15/2020	NBN	Prepare final fee application (0.4).	700.00	0.40	280.00
		For Current Services Rendered		0.40	280.00

Recapitulation

Timekeeper	Hours	Rate	Total
Norman B. Newman	0.40	\$700.00	\$280.00

Total Current Work	280.00
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Balance Due	<u>\$280.00</u>
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Billing History

Fees	Expenses	Finance Charge	Payments
280.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

NBN

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